| (Rev. 12-29-99) TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO TI   |  | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. H 3876 PCT/US                                      |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFI<br>CONCERNING A FILING UNDI  |  | U.S. APPUCATION NO. If known see 37 CFR 1.5)                             |  |  |  |  |  |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP00/00903   | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED February 13, 1999  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TITLE OF INVENTION METHOD FOR PRODUCING  | G PHYTOSTEROLS   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US  Joerg Schwarzer, Bernhar  | d Gutsche  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United Sta   | ates Designated/Elected Office (EO/DO/US) t  | he following items and other information:                                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. This is a FIRST submission of ite   | ems concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.   | JENT submission of items concerning a filing   | under 35 U.S.C. 371.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3  | tional examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371<br>the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371 | (f)) at any time rather than delay<br>b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39 (1). |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. A proper Demand for International   | al Preliminary Examination was made by the 19  | Oth month from the earliest claimed priority date.                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. □ is transmitted herewith (related by the beautiful of the beautiful o  | b. has been transmitted by the International Bureau.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | plication into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))  a. □ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).  b. □ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.  c. □ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.  d. ■ have not been made and will not be made.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8.   | the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 3   | 371(c)(3)).  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4  | or(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). (UNEXECUTED)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.   A translation of the annexes to the learning in the lear | nternational Preliminary Examination Report u  | nder PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).                               |  |  |  |  |  |
| Items 11, to 16. below concern other doc<br>11. An Information Disclosure Statemen   | cument(s) or information included:<br>nt under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.                           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12.   An assignment document for record  | ling. A separate cover sheet in compliance wi  | th 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.                                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13. ■ A FIRST preliminary amendment  □ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT pre  | liminary amendment.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14. ☐ A substitute specification.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/o  | or address letter.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16. ☐ Other items or information:  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| "Express Mail Post Office<br>EL541612567US   | to Addressee" service Mail   | ing Label Number   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|   |   |  |                         |                | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br>H 3876 PCT/US |       |           |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|----------------|---|-------|-----------|
| nor international search<br>and International Search<br>International preliminal  | submitted:  CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)): eliminary examination fee fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2) h Report not prepared by y examination fee (37 CF ll Search Report prepared | CALCULA  | ATIONS                  | PTO USE ONLY   |   |       |           |
| International preliminar<br>international search fee  | y examination fee (37 CF<br>(37CFR 1.445(a)(2)) pai   | R 1.482) not paid to US<br>d to USPTO              | SPTO but <b>\$710</b> . | .00            |   |       |           |
| but all claims did not sa   | y examination fee paid to<br>itisfy provisions of PCT A   | rticle 33(1)-(4)                                   | \$690                   | .00            |   |       |           |
| and all claims satisfied  | y examination fee paid to<br>provisions of PCT Article  | 33(1)-(4)  | \$100                   | 0.00           | _   |       |           |
| ENTER APP   | ROPRIATE BASI   | C FEE AMOUNT                                       |                         | =              | \$  | 860   |           |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for fun<br>months from the earliest claim   | ed priority date 37 (CFR  | 1.492(e)).   | □ 30                    |                | \$  | 0     |           |
| CLAIMS  | NUMBER FILED  | NUMBER EXTRA                                       | RATE                    |                |   |       |           |
| Total Claims  | 29 - 20 =   | 9  | 9 X \$18.               | 00             | \$  | 162   |           |
| Independent Claims  | 3 - 3 =   | 0  | 0 X \$80.0              | 00             | \$  | 0     |           |
| Multiple dependent claims (s)(  |   | 0  | + \$270.0               | 00             | \$  | 0     |           |
|   | TOTAL OF ABOV   | E CALCULATIO                                       | NS                      | = /            | \$  | 1022  |           |
| Reduction of ½ for filing by sn<br>also be filed. (Note 37 CFR 1.   | nall entity, if applicable. /<br>9, 1.27, 1.28).  |  |                         |                | \$  | 0     |           |
| 1   |   | SUBTOTA  | AL :                    | =              | \$  | 1022  |           |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for months from the earliest claim   | furnishing the English tra<br>ed priority date (37 CFR  | anslation later the $\Box$ 21.492(f)).             |                         | +              | \$  | 0     |           |
|   | TOTA  | AL NATIONAL F                                      | EE :                    | =              | \$  | 1022  |           |
| Fee for recording the enclosed accompanied by an appropriate  | assignment (37 CFR 1.21<br>cover sheet (37 CFR 3.2  | l(h)). The assignment<br>28, 3.31). \$40.00 per pr | must be<br>operty -     | +              | \$  | 0     |           |
|   |   | L FEES ENCLOS                                      |                         | -              | \$  | 1022  |           |
|   |   |  |                         |                | Amount refunded                           |       | \$        |
|   |   |  |                         |                | charged:                                  | :<br> | \$1022.00 |
| a.   A check in the amount o  | f \$ to c   | over the above fees is e                           | enclosed.               |                |   |       |           |
| <ul> <li>b. ■ Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>50-1177</u> in the amount of \$1022.00 to cover the above fees.</li></ul> |   |  |                         |                |   |       |           |
| SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE   | TO: Cognis Corpo<br>2500 Renaiss  | oration, Law Dept.<br>Sance Blvd., Suite 2         |                         | SIGNA          | TURE:                                     | Mu    | 18        |
| Form PTO 1390 (REV 12-29-99) page 2 of 2  | Gulph Mills, F  | PA 19406   | ۱<br><u>4</u>           | NAME<br>12,516 |   |       | APPLICANT |

09/913377 518 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 AUG 2001

### "Express Mail " Mailing Label Number <u>EL541612567US</u>.

PATENT Docket No. H 3876 PCT/US

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE:

PCT/EP00/00903

International Filing Date: February 4, 2000 Priority Date Claimed: February 13, 1999

Applicant: Schwarzer, et al.

Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING PHYTOSTEROLS

Applicants' Reference: H 3876 PCT/US

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Box PCT Washington, DC 20231

ATTN: DO/EO/US

Prior to the calculation of fees and examination of the above-identified national stage application pursuant to the accompanying submission under 35 U.S.C. §371, please amend the English translation of the International Application submitted herewith, without prejudice, as follows:

### In the Specification:

Please amend the instant Specification, without prejudice, as follows:

Please delete all text above line 7 of page 1, including the heading "<u>Prior Art</u>", and replace the deleted matter with the following new section headings and title of the invention:

### --TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Processes for Preparing Phytosterols and Substantially Citrostadienol-Free Phytosterols Prepared Thereby

#### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

At page 2, line 13 thereof, please delete the section heading "Description of the

<u>Invention</u>" and insert the following new section heading and new paragraph:

#### -- BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates, in general, to food additives and phytosterols for use therein, and more particularly, to a new process for the production of phytosterols substantially free from citrostadienol.--

At page 3, line 1 thereof, please insert the following new section heading:
--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--

At page 6, between lines 1 and 2, please add the following new paragraph: --What is claimed is:--.

On a separate, new page 7, following page 6, please add the following new section heading and paragraph containing an Abstract of the Disclosure:

### -- ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Processes for preparing substantially citrostadienol-free phytosterols are disclosed. The processes described include dissolving a liquid phytosterol in a hydrocarbon solvent, optionally with added methanol, and crystallizing the phytosterol compounds. Also described are the resulting phytosterols which are substantially citrostadienol-free, and preferably contain less than 0.5% by weight citrostadienol.--

### In the Claims:

Please add new claims 9-37, as follows:

- --9. (New) A process for preparing phytosterols, said process comprising:
- (a) providing a liquid phytosterol starting material obtained by transesterification of a distillation residue with an alkanol;
  - (b) dissolving the liquid phytosterol starting material in a hydrocarbon

solvent; and

- (c) crystallizing a phytosterol product, wherein the phytosterol product is substantially citrostadienol-free.--
- --10. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein the distillation residue comprises a deodorizer condensate obtained from fatty acid methyl ester production.--
- --11. (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein the deodorizer condensate is derived from an oil selected from the group consisting of rapeseed oil and sunflower oil.--
- --12. (New) The process according to claim 11, wherein the oil comprises sunflower oil.--
- --13. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein the distillation residue comprises tall oil pitch.--
- --14. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein the alkanol comprises methanol.--
- --15. (New) The process according to claim 11, wherein the alkanol comprises methanol.--
- --16. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein the liquid phytosterol starting material is maintained at a temperature of from 60°C to 80°C prior to and during dissolution in the hydrocarbon solvent.--
- --17. (New) The process according to claim 11, wherein the liquid phytosterol starting material is maintained at a temperature of from 60°C to 80°C prior to and during

dissolution in the hydrocarbon solvent.--

- --18. (New) The process according to claim 16, wherein the liquid phytosterol starting material is maintained at a temperature of from 65°C to 70°C.--
- --19. (New) The process according to claim 17, wherein the liquid phytosterol starting material is maintained at a temperature of from 65°C to 70°C.--
- --20. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein the hydrocarbon solvent comprises a linear or branched alkane isomer selected from the group consisting of pentane, hexane, heptane, octane, nonane, decane, and mixtures thereof.--
- --21. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein the hydrocarbon solvent comprises a linear or branched alkane isomer selected from the group consisting of hexane, heptane, and mixtures thereof.--
- --22. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein methanol is combined with the hydrocarbon solvent prior to crystallization.--
- --23. (New) The process according to claim 22, wherein the methanol is present in an amount of from 1 to 15 % by weight, based on the hydrocarbon solvent.--
- --24. (New) The process according to claim 11, wherein methanol is combined with the hydrocarbon solvent prior to crystallization.--
- --25. (New) The process according to claim 24, wherein the methanol is present in an amount of from 1 to 15 % by weight, based on the hydrocarbon solvent.--
  - --26. (New) The process according to claim 16, wherein methanol is

combined with the hydrocarbon solvent prior to crystallization.--

- --27. (New) The process according to claim 26, wherein the methanol is present in an amount of from 1 to 15 % by weight, based on the hydrocarbon solvent.--
- --28. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein crystallizing the phytosterol product comprises cooling the liquid phytosterol starting material in the hydrocarbon solvent to a temperature of below about 30°C.--
- --29. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein crystallizing the phytosterol product comprises cooling the liquid phytosterol starting material in the hydrocarbon solvent to a temperature of from about 25°C to about 30°C.--
- --30. (New) The process according to claim 11, wherein crystallizing the phytosterol product comprises cooling the liquid phytosterol starting material in the hydrocarbon solvent to a temperature of below about 30°C.--
- --31. (New) The process according to claim 11, wherein crystallizing the phytosterol product comprises cooling the liquid phytosterol starting material in the hydrocarbon solvent to a temperature of from about 25°C to about 30°C.--
- --32. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein the phytosterol product has a citrostadienol content of less than 0.5% by weight.--
- --33. (New) The process according to claim 9, wherein the phytosterol product has a citrostadienol content of less than 0.2% by weight.--
  - --34. (New) A process for preparing phytosterols, said process comprising:

    (a) providing a liquid phytosterol starting material obtained by

transesterification of a distillation residue with methanol, wherein the distillation residue comprises a deodorizer condensate derived from sunflower oil;

- (b) dissolving the liquid phytosterol starting material in a hydrocarbon solvent, the hydrocarbon solvent comprising a linear or branched alkane isomer selected from the group consisting of hexane, heptane, and mixtures thereof, wherein the liquid phytosterol starting material is maintained at a temperature of from 60°C to 80°C prior to and during dissolution in the hydrocarbon solvent; and
- (c) crystallizing a phytosterol product via cooling the liquid phytosterol starting material in the hydrocarbon solvent to a temperature of below about 30°C, wherein methanol is combined with the hydrocarbon solvent prior to crystallization in an amount of from 1 to 15 % by weight, based on the hydrocarbon solvent, and wherein the phytosterol product has a citrostadienol content of less than 0.5% by weight.--
  - --35. (New) A phytosterol prepared by the process according to claim 1.--
  - --36. (New) A phytosterol prepared by the process according to claim 34.--
- --37. (New) A composition comprising one or more natural phytosterol compounds, wherein the composition has a citrostadienol content of 0.5% by weight or less.--

Please cancel claims 1-8, without prejudice.

#### **REMARKS**

Claims 9-37 are currently pending in the instant application.

The Specification has been amended to delete the original section headings and to insert the preferred section headings pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.77. A new Title of the Invention has been inserted. An Abstract of the Disclosure, in accordance with the disclosure, has been added. It is submitted that the amendments to the Specification made herein introduce no new matter. All of the amendments to the Specification constitute deletions of original section headings and/or paragraphs, and insertions or additions of new section headings and/or paragraphs. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1)(iii), no separate page captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE" is necessary. A separate page containing a clean copy of the Abstract of the Disclosure has been attached for the Examiner's convenience. Entry of the amendments to the Specification made herein are therefore proper and respectfully requested.

Original claims 1-8 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 9-37 solely for the purpose of improving clarity and grammar, which may suffer in translation, and not for any reason which relates to the statutory requirements for a patent. New claims 9-37 have not been added in response to any rejection, nor in anticipation of any rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the scope of new claims 9-37 generally corresponds to the scope of original claims 1-8, and that new claims 9-37 are no narrower than original claims 1-8. Furthermore, although a moot point in view of their cancellation, Applicants respectfully submit that original claims 1-8 satisfied the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, as filed. New claims 9-37 are supported by the claims as originally filed and in the Specification, for example, at page 2, lines 14-30; at page 3, lines 5-9 & 14-30; and in the Examples. No new matter has been introduced. All of the amendments to the Claims constitute cancellation of original claims and the addition of new claims. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii), no separate page captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE" is necessary. Entry is therefore proper and respectfully requested.

Prompt examination of the instant application in view of the amendments made herein is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JOERG SCHWARZER, et al.

ARON R. ETTELMAN

(Reg. No. 42,516) Attorney for Applicants

Telephone: (610) 278-4930

Facsimile: (610) 278-6548 E-Mail: AARON.ETTELMAN@HENKEL-AMERICAS.COM

Cognis Corporation, Patent Dept. 2500 Renaissance Blvd., Suite 200 Gulph Mills, PA 19406

ARE/ras

G:\Data\amend\H3876.pam.doc

WO 00/47570

1

PCT/EP00/00903

### **Method for Producing Phytosterols**

#### Field of the Invention

This invention relates generally to food additives and more particularly to a new process for the production of phytosterols substantially free from citrostadienol.

5

10

15

20

25

### **Prior Art**

Phytosterols and their esters possess hypocholesterolaemic properties, i.e. these substances are capable of lowering the cholesterol level in the blood. Accordingly, they are used as food additives, for example for the production of margarine, frying oils, sausage, ice cream and the like. The production of sterols and other unsaponifiable constituents, such as tocopherols for example, from distillates obtained in the deacidification of vegetable oils, has already been variously described in the literature, cf. EP-A2 0 610 742 (Hoffmann-LaRoche), GB-A1 2,145,079 (Nisshin Oil Mills Japan) and EP-A1 0 333 472 (Palm Oil Research and Development Board).

European Patent EP-B1 0 656 894 (Henkel) describes a process for the production of sterols in which a residue from the distillation of methyl esters consisting essentially of glycerides, sterols, sterol esters and tocopherols is transesterified with methanol in the presence of alkaline catalysts. After neutralization of the catalyst, removal of the excess methanol by distillation and, optionally, removal of the catalyst by washing, the sterols are crystallized by lowering the reaction temperature from about 65 to 20°C. The crystals obtained are then washed with methanol and water. However, where residues from the production of methyl esters based on sunflower oil are used, the sterols obtained contain not only the

famile.

10

15

20

25

30

target components, such as above all campesterol, campestanol, stigmasterol,  $\beta$ -sitosterol and  $\beta$ -sitostanol, but also significant amounts of citrostadienol which is undesirable for applicational reasons. German patent application **DE-A1 3226225** (Raisio) describes a process by which the amount of citrostadienol can be reduced. In this process, the solid sterols are first dissolved in heptane and then re-crystallized after addition of methanol. However, the resulting products are by no means free from citrostadienol and, in addition, the yields are unsatisfactory.

Accordingly, the problem addressed by the present invention was to provide high yields of phytosterols which would be distinguished above all by the fact that they would be largely free from citrostadienol.

### Description of the Invention

The present invention relates to a process for the production of phytosterols by alkali-catalyzed transesterification of residues from the production of methyl esters with methanol, neutralization of the catalyst and removal of the unreacted alcohol, characterized in that the transesterification products are dissolved in saturated hydrocarbons containing 5 to 10 carbon atoms at a temperature at which they are present in liquid form, the phytosterols are crystallized in the hydrocarbon by lowering the temperature, optionally after the addition of an adequate quantity of aqueous methanol, and are then removed and purified in known manner by filtration, washing and drying.

It has surprisingly been found that crystallization of the sterols in hydrocarbons coupled with the addition of effective quantities of aqueous methanol gives products which have citrostadienol contents below 0.5% by weight and preferably below 0.2% by weight and which are therefore substantially free from this unwanted component. Another advantage is that, in contrast to known processes, the yields of sterol in the crystallization step are significantly higher.

] ,,e.j.,

5

10

15

20

25

30

WO 00/47570 3 PCT/EP00/00903

### **Transesterification**

The production of a sterol-rich fraction by transesterification of residues from the deacidification of vegetable oils and subsequent working up can be carried out as described in EP-B1 0 656 894. Suitable starting materials are the distillation residues obtained, for example, as so-called deodorizer condensates in the production of fatty acid methyl esters based on rapeseed oil or, more particularly, sunflower oil. Tall oil pitch, more particularly pitch obtained from birch bark, is also suitable. Where it relates to the production of the sterol fractions, reference is comprehensively made to the document cited above.

### Crystallization

A key feature of the new process is that the products obtainable from the transesterification are dissolved in the hydrocarbons at a temperature at which they are still liquid. This is preferably the case at 60 to 80°C and more particularly at 65 to 70°C. Suitable solvents are lower alkanes, for example pentane, hexane, heptane, octane, nonane and decane. Included herein are both the linear hydrocarbons and the branched structural isomers derived therefrom and mixtures thereof. However, the use of hexane, heptane or mixtures thereof has proved to be particularly advantageous. After the sterols have dissolved, the temperature is reduced to such a value that the pure sterols crystallize. It has proved to be of advantage in this regard to add an effective quantity of aqueous methanol to the mixture. 1 to 25% by weight aqueous methanol solutions are normally used for this purpose, the quantity in which they are added - based on the hydrocarbons - typically being in the range from about 1 to 15% by weight. Although the crystallization process begins at a temperature as low as about 30°C, it has proved to be of advantage to lower the temperature to about 15 to 25°C. The phytosterols obtained are then removed and purified in known manner, i.e. filtered off, washed free from soaps and then dried to constant weight. The resulting products have a citrostadienol content of less than 0.5% by weight and preferably less than 0.2% by weight.

5

10

15

20

25

30

#### **Examples**

**Example 1.** 200 g of a distillation residue from the production of sunflower oil fatty acid methyl ester containing inter alia 15% by weight of glycerides and 28% by weight of free or bound sterols were introduced together with 78 g of methanol into a 1-liter three-necked condenser equipped with a stirrer and distillation head. 3.8 g of 30% by weight sodium methylate solution were then added to the mixture, followed by stirring for 4 h at 70°C. The alkaline catalyst was then neutralized by addition of 4.2 g of citric acid dissolved in 19 g of methanol, the unreacted methanol was distilled off in vacuo and the residue was washed soap-free with water at 65°C. A mixture of 400 g of hexane, 26 g of methanol and 8 g of water was added to the crude product and the whole was cooled to 20°C. Removal of the mother liquor through a filter and drying of the residue left 41 g of sterols which were free from citrostadienol.

**Example 2.** The procedure was as described in Example 1 except that a mixture of 200 g of heptane, 13 g of methanol and 4 g of water was added to 100 g of the transesterification product and the whole was cooled for 4 hours to 20°C. Filtration and drying left 19.4 g of sterols with a citrostadienol content of less than 0.2% by weight.

**Comparison Example C1.** The procedure was as described in Example 1 except that methanol was added to the transesterification product in a ratio by weight of 1:1. On cooling to 20°C, the crystals precipitated and were

filtered off, washed with aqueous methanol and then dried. However, the resulting sterols still contained 4.7% by weight of citrostadienol. 100 g of this product were dissolved in heptane at 70°C and, after the addition of 20 g of methanol, the whole was again cooled for 4 hours to a temperature of 20°C. Filtration and drying left only 75 g of sterols still with a citrostadienol content of 4.2% by weight.

 5

### **CLAIMS**

5

- 1. A process for the production of phytosterols by alkali-catalyzed transesterification of residues from the production of methyl esters with methanol, neutralization of the catalyst and removal of the unreacted alcohol, characterized in that the transesterification products are dissolved in saturated hydrocarbons containing 5 to 10 carbon atoms at a temperature at which they are present in liquid form, the phytosterols are crystallized in the hydrocarbon by lowering the temperature and are then removed and purified in known manner by filtration, washing and drying.
- 10 2. A process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that residues from the production of sunflower oil fatty acid methyl esters or tall oil pitch are used.
  - 3. A process as claimed in claims 1 and/or 2, characterized in that the transesterification products are dissolved at 60 to 80°C.
- 15 4. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that hexane, heptane or mixtures thereof is/are used as the solvent.
  - 5. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that an effective quantity of aqueous methanol is added during crystallization.
- 20 6. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that 1 to 25% by weight aqueous methanol solutions are used.
  - 7. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the aqueous methanol solutions are used in quantities of 1 to 15% by weight, based on the hydrocarbons.
- 25 8. A process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that phytosterols with a citrostadienol content of less than 0.5% by weight are produced.

| Express | Mail" | mailing | label number | EL541612567US |  |
|---------|-------|---------|--------------|---------------|--|
|         |       |         |              |               |  |

PTO/SB/01 (6-95) Approved for use through: 10/31/98 OMB 0651-0032

| Type a plus sign (+) inside this bo  | ox →   | Patent and Tra   | idemark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERC  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| 0010/PTO<br>Rev. 6/95  | U.S. Department of Commerce<br>Patent and Trademark Office                 |  | H 3876 PCT/US   |  |  |  |  |
| DECLARAT   | TION FOR   | First Named Inventor   | SCHWARZER, Joerg  |  |  |  |  |
| UTILITY OF   | R DESIGN   |  | COMPLETE IF KNOWN   |  |  |  |  |
| PATENT APP   | PLICATION  | Application Num  | nber 09/913,377   |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Filing Date  | 11/13/2001  |  |  |  |  |
| Declaration OF Submitted   | R X Declaration Submitted afte   | Group Art Unit   |   |  |  |  |  |
| with Initial Filing  | Initial Filing   | Examiner Name  |   |  |  |  |  |
| METHOD FOR PRODUCING PHYTOSTEROLS  the specification of which is attached hereto  OR   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| X was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) 02/04/2000 as United States Application Number or PCT International  Application Number PCT/EP00/00903 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).  I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.  I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56. |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| I hereby claim foreign priority benefits unc<br>certificate, or §385(a) of any PCT Interna<br>and have also identified below, by checkli<br>having a filing date before that of the appl   | ational application which designate<br>ng the box, any foreign application | ed at least one country other than to<br>for patent or inventor's certificate, | he United States of America, listed below   |  |  |  |  |
| Prior Foreign Application<br>Number(s)   | Country  | Foreign Filing Date<br>(MM/DD/YYYY   | Priority Certified Copy Attached? Not Claimed YES NO  |  |  |  |  |
| 199 06 551.9   | DE   | 02/13/1999   | X   |  |  |  |  |
| Additional foreign application   |  | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  | attached hereto:<br>ates provisional application(s) listed below.                                       |  |  |  |  |
| Application Number(s)  | Filing Date (MM/DD/Y   |  | Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto. |  |  |  |  |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take .4 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

"Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service Mailing Label Number

EL541613911US

| Type a plus s   | ign (+) inside this box  | ,   |  |                                     |                                   |   | τ  |                            | н                             | 3876 PC                      | CT/US              |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|------------------------------------|--|--|
| *   | DECLA  | ARATION   | 1  |                                     |                                   |   |  | P                          | age 2                         |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| designating the<br>prior United St<br>duty to disclos | the benefit under Title 3<br>be United States of Ameriates or PCT internations<br>be information which is more the prior application a | ica, listed below an<br>al application in the<br>naterial to patentab | d, insofar as<br>manner pro<br>ility as define | the subj<br>vided by<br>ed in Title | ject mat<br>the first<br>e 37, Co | ter of ea<br>paragn<br>de of F                      | ach of the claims<br>aph of Title 35, U<br>ederal Regulatior | of this app<br>nited State | lication is no<br>s Code §112 | ot disclosed<br>2.1 acknowle | in the<br>edge the |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
|   | ent Application<br>Number  |   | Parent<br>nber                                 | Parent Pare                         |                                   |   |  |                            |                               |                              |                    |  |  |  | Parent Patent Numb (if applicable) |  |  |
|   |  | PCT/EP00/0  | 00903  | C                                   | 02/04/2000                        |   |  |                            |                               |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Addition  | nal U.S. or PCT internati  | ional application nu  | ımbers are li                                  | sted on a                           | a supple                          | mental  | priority sheet atta  | ched here                  | to.                           |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
|   | ventor, I hereby appoint<br>ice connected therewith  |   | ney(s) and/or                                  | agent(s)                            | ) to pros                         | ecute ti  | his application an   | d to transa                | ct all busine                 | ss in the Pa                 | atent and          |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Firm Na OR X List Att                                 | ame corney(s) and/or agent   | (s) name and rec  | sistration nu                                  | mber be                             | elow:                             |   | Customer or le   | abel                       |                               |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
|   | Name   |   | Registrat<br>Numbe                             |                                     |                                   |   |  | Name                       |                               | Registra<br>Num              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| John E. Di<br>Steven J.                               |  |   | 32,891<br>36,296                               |                                     |                                   | aron R. Ettelman enry E. Millson, Jr. 42,516 18,980 |  |                            |                               |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Additio   | nal attorney(s) and/or   | agent(s) named  | on a supple                                    | mental                              | sheet a                           | ttache  | d hereto.  |                            |                               |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Please direct corresponder                            |  | X Customer<br>Number  | or label                                       |                                     | 2                                 | 36  | 57   | OR [                       |                               | correspon<br>ss below        | dence              |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Name  | Aaron R. Ettelr  | nan   |  |                                     |                                   |   |  |                            |                               |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Address   |  |   |  |                                     |                                   |   |  |                            |                               |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Address   |  |   |  |                                     |                                   |   |  |                            |                               |                              |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| City  |  |   |  |                                     |                                   | State   |  |                            |                               | ZIP                          |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Country   |  |   | Telephor                                       |                                     | 610-2                             |   |  | Fax                        |                               | 310-278-6                    | 5548               |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| belief are belike so made                             | are that all statements<br>leved to be true; and fo<br>are punishable by fine<br>tatements may jeopard                                 | urther that these<br>or imprisonmen                                   | statements<br>t, or both, u                    | were mander Se                      | ade wit                           | h the k<br>001 of                                   | nowledge that v<br>Title 18 of the U                         | villful false              | statement                     | s and the                    | ch                 |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Name of S   | Sole or First Inven  | ntor:   |  |                                     |                                   | 1   | A petition   | has been                   | filed for this                | s unsigned                   | l                  |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |
| Given<br>Name   | Joerg  |   | Middle<br>Initial                              |                                     |                                   | mily<br>me  | Schwarze   |                            |                               | Suffix<br>e.g. Jr.           |                    |  |  |  |                                    |  |  |

Selwage

State

Kunibertstrasse 13

State

Zip

Additional inventors are being named on supplemental sheet(s) attached hereto

Country

Country

Inventor's Signature

Residence:

Post Office Address

Post Office Address

40723 Hilden

City

City

Page 2

20-Ang-2001

Germany

Çitizenship

Applicant Authority

Date

Germany

Germany

| Type a plus             | sign (+) in | side this box   |             |              |        |                                       | •              | ı   |          | ŀ                                      | 1 3876             | PCT/US |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|--------|---------------------------------------|----------------|---|----------|--|--------------------|--------|
|                         |             | DECL            | ARAT        | ION          | l      |                                       |                | ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S) Supplemental Sheet     |          |  |                    |        |
| Name of                 | Addition    | al Joint Inven  | tor, if any | y:           |        | A                                     | petition       | ion has been filed for this unsigned inventor |          |  |                    |        |
| Given<br>Name           | Bernh       | ard             |             | Mid<br>Initi |        |                                       | Family<br>Name | Gutsche                                       | Meaning. |  | Suffix<br>e.g. Jr. |        |
| Inventor's<br>Signature | 1           | Sega            | hara        |              | 9      | who                                   | he.            |   | Date     | Aug                                    | 22.                | 200/   |
| Residence:<br>City      | Hil         | den             |             | St           | ate    |                                       | Country        | Germany                                       | DEX      | Citizenship                            |                    |        |
| Post Office             | Address     | Kalstert 96     |             |              |        | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |                | <u>L</u>                                      |          | ······································ | <u>. I</u>         |        |
| Post Office             | Address     |                 |             |              |        |                                       |                |   |          |  |                    |        |
| City 40                 | 724 Hilder  | i               | State       |              | Zip    |                                       | Country        | Germany                                       |          | Applicant<br>Authority                 |                    |        |
| Name of                 | Addition    | al Joint Inven  | or, if any  | y:           |        | A                                     | petition       | has been fil                                  | ed for   |  | ned in             | ventor |
| Given<br>Name           |             |                 |             | Mid<br>Initi |        |                                       | Family<br>Name |   |          |  | Suffix<br>e.g. Jr. |        |
| Inventor's<br>Signature |             |                 |             | •            |        | •                                     |                |   | Date     |  | <b>A</b>           | •      |
| Residence:<br>City      |             |                 |             | St           | ate    |                                       | Country        | ,   | <u> </u> | Citizenship                            |                    |        |
| Post Office             | Address     |                 |             |              |        | •                                     | •              | ·· •  |          | <u> </u>                               | <u> </u>           |        |
| Post Office             | Address     |                 |             |              |        |                                       |                |   |          |  |                    |        |
| City                    |             |                 | State       |              | Zip    |                                       | Country        | '   |          | Applicant<br>Authority                 |                    |        |
| Name of                 | Addition    | al Joint Invent | or, if any  | <b>y</b> :   |        | □ A                                   | petition       | has been fil                                  | ed for   | this unsig                             | gned inv           | ventor |
| Given<br>Name           | •           |                 |             | Mid<br>Initi |        |                                       | Family<br>Name |   |          |  | Suffix<br>e.g. Jr. |        |
| Inventor's<br>Signature | :           |                 |             |              |        |                                       |                |   | Date     |  |                    |        |
| Residence:<br>City      |             |                 |             | St           | ate    |                                       | Country        | ,   |          | Citizenship                            |                    |        |
| Post Office             |             |                 |             |              |        |                                       |                |   |          |  |                    | ·      |
| Post Office             | Address     |                 |             |              |        |                                       |                |   |          |  |                    |        |
| City                    |             |                 | State       |              | Zip    |                                       | Country        |   |          | Applicant<br>Authority                 |                    |        |
| Name of                 | Addition    | al Joint Invent | or, if any  | <i>/</i> :   | ]      | A                                     | petition       | has been fil                                  | ed for   | this unsig                             | ned inv            | ventor |
| Given<br>Name           |             |                 |             | Mid<br>Initi |        |                                       | Family<br>Name |   |          |  | Suffix<br>e.g. Jr. |        |
| Inventor's<br>Signature |             |                 |             | 1.           |        |                                       |                |   | Date     |  |                    |        |
| Residence:<br>City      |             |                 |             | St           | ate    |                                       | Country        |   |          | Citizenship                            |                    |        |
| Post Office             | Address     |                 |             |              |        | •                                     |                |   | •        |  | 1                  |        |
| Post Office             | Address     |                 |             |              |        |                                       |                |   |          |  |                    |        |
| City                    |             | •               | State       |              | Zip    |                                       | Country        |   |          | Applicant<br>Authority                 |                    |        |
| Ad                      | ditional in | ventors are be  | ng name     | d on s       | uppler | mental sh                             | eet(s) att     | ached hereto                                  |          |  |                    |        |

|                       | Simila.      |
|-----------------------|--------------|
|                       |              |
| 19                    |              |
| Section.              | snei:        |
| 20000                 | 4            |
| Section .             | A            |
| ŝ                     | 세            |
|                       |              |
| ź                     |              |
| 4                     | grai:        |
| ŝ                     | 5000         |
| C salves              | mi           |
| C salves              |              |
| Variety County County | esi:<br>esi: |
| Variety County County | eni:<br>eni: |

| Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box                   | PTO/SB/123 (10-00)  |
|---|---|
|   | Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0035  |
|   | U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE                                   |
| Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are re- | quired to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. |

| CHANGE OF                     |
|-------------------------------|
| <b>CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS</b> |
| Datont                        |

Address to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

| Patent Number        |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Issue Date           |                 |
| Application Number   | 09/913,377      |
| Filing Date          | 11/13/2001      |
| First Named Inventor | Schwarzer Joerg |

| <b>———————</b>  |   |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
|---|---|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Please change t   | he Correspondence Address for the above-ide   | ntified pa     | atent to:            |                                   |  |  |
| X Customer  | <b>Number</b> 23657 —   |                |                      | Place Customer<br>Number Bar Code |  |  |
| OR  | Type Customer Number here   |                |                      | Label here                        |  |  |
|   |   |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
| Firm <i>or</i><br>Individual Name   | Cognis Corporation  |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
| Address   |   |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
| Address   |   |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
| City  |   | State          |                      | ZIP                               |  |  |
| Country   |   |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
| Telephone   | (610) 278-4920  | Fa             | (610) 278            | 3-6548                            |  |  |
| data associated with an existing Customer Number use "Request for Customer Number Data Change" (PTO/SB/124).  This form will not affect any "fee address" provided for the above-identified patent. To change a "fee address" use the "Fee Address Indication Form" (PTO/SB/47).  I am the:  Patentee.  Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).  X Attorney or agent of record. |   |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
| Typed or<br>Printed Name  | Aaron R. Ettelman, R.M. 42,516  |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
| Signature   | M.M. Allanda  |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
| Date  | Date November 13, 2001  |                |                      |                                   |  |  |
|   | Il the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interes<br>signature is required, see below*. | st or their re | epresentative(s) are | required. Submit multiple         |  |  |
| *Total of   | forms are submitted.  | <del></del>    |                      |                                   |  |  |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.